



Allen County HamNews

Fort Wayne Radio Club

Fort Wayne DX Association

Allen County Amateur Radio Technical Society

August 2019
Volume 20
Issue 8

THE FOXHUNT CHRONICLES FOR JULY 2019

The July FWRC foxhunt occurred on Sunday the 14th of July, which turned out to be a warm (pushing 90°F) midsummer day in Indiana. But we were experiencing a respite from the rains which have caused a significant hick-up in the corn and soybean growing enterprises around here.

There were three hunter teams involved in the July contest. The first consisted of Jim & Annie Pliett, K9OMA and KA9YYI, plus Carole and Al Burke, WB9's RUS & SSE. The second team included Steve and Linda Nardin, W9's SAN & LAN. And the third team consisted of Bill Hopkins, K9WEH, who is a recent addition to the FWRC and our merry band of foxhunters. He had tried out the sport as a ride-along with Charles Ward and Fred Gengnagel last April and (hee hee) he got infected with the desire to foxhunt.

Don Glick, K9LI took on the role of the fox for July's event. He chose a hideout at the St. Joe river boat launch put-in site located at the location of the old Mayhew Rd. St. Joe River bridge, about 100 yards northeast of the new Mayhew Rd. bridge. Don used a yagi up about 15 feet driven at 25 watts as the high-power fox, and he hid the microfox, (which blurped out a CW signal of about 25 milliwatts) under a pile of river ballast, and included, as a diver-



sion, a dummy fox. This indicated to me that Don has been hanging around with Ward and Gengnagel entirely too much. Next thing you know he'll be hiding foxes in New Haven!

Promptly at 13:30 hours Don starting the hunt transmitting on 146.430 MHz for one minute every five minutes with the microfox programmed to transmit for one minute every two and a half minutes,

synchronized of course so that the high power and microfox transmissions didn't interfere with one another.

Immediately, the high-power fox was heard by the three hunter teams located at the Corbin Park starting point. As it turned out neither the Nardin's nor Bill Hopkins had roof mounted directional antennas installed on their vehicles, so

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Internet Home Pages

Fort Wayne Radio Club:	http://www.FWRC.info/
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ACARTS:	http://www.acarts.com
Fort Wayne DX Association:	http://www.qsl.net/fwdxa/
ARES:	http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Allen_Co_IN_ARES/
IN_PACKET Yahoo Group:	http://groups.yahoo.com/group/IN_PACKET/

Allen County HamNews is a monthly joint publication of the Fort Wayne Radio Club (P.O. Box 15127, Fort Wayne, IN 46885), the Allen County Amateur Radio Technical Society (P.O. Box 10342, Fort Wayne, IN 46851), and the Fort Wayne DX Association.

Please send any articles, classified ads, or other information to the editor, Ken Helms, K9ZT, at **AB9ZD (at) ARRL.NET**. Please put "For Newsletter" in the subject line. Most text and graphics formats are acceptable. Microsoft Word and JPEG are preferred if separate files are used. For those without computer access, please mail your submission to either of the clubs post office boxes.

The deadline for the each issue is a few days before the end of the preceding month.

Hamsplatter

Fort Wayne Radio Club P.O. Box 15127, Fort Wayne, IN

FORT WAYNE RADIO CLUB MEETING MINUTES

The July meeting of the Ft. Wayne Radio Club was held at the Good Shepherd United Methodist Church (GSUMC) on 19 July, 2019. The meeting was hosted by President Charles Ward, KC9MUT.

There were about 40 folks in attendance and following the Pledge of Allegiance, each person introduced themselves via their call sign.

Don Glick, K9LI commented on the July foxhunt. There were three teams in the hunt; Don was the fox. New foxhunter Bill Hopkins, K9WEH wound up finding the fox first and will thus serve as the fox for the August endeavor. Note that the date of the August hunt has been delayed one week and will occur on Sunday, 11 August instead of the 4th of August. Full details regarding the July hunt can be found in the Foxhunt Chronicles for July which will be posted to the club web page, and to the August edition of the Allen County Ham News.

Treasurer Bob Streeter, W8ST presented the status of the Treasury. As of 19 July, 2019 the numbers were as follows:

Income Year-To-Date	\$7,286.74
Expenses Year-To-Date	\$3,765.37
Savings balance	\$3,082.74
Checking balance	\$1,830.33
Cash-on-Hand	\$43.00
Vanguard account balance	\$11,166.17
Number of members	130

Speaking of money, Charles addressed three issues related to potential expenditures that required a vote by the club membership.

1. The FWRC makes use of the GSUMC facilities for twelve regular membership meetings a year and twelve Board of Directors meetings a year. Two of the

meetings make use of the GSUMC kitchen facilities (Spring and Christmas Banquets), and one makes use of the parking lot to host the Tailgate Hamfest. After some discussion the Board concluded that a donation of \$360.00 to the GSUMC represented a bargain considering what the church provides for us. Bob Streeter made a formal proposal that the club do so which was seconded and voted on by the membership in attendance. The vote was a unanimous "yes", thus the FWRC will make a donation of \$360.00 to the GSUMC forthwith.

2. The FWRC again this year used the facilities of the Old Fort for our Field Day site. The Board concluded that a donation to the Old Fort to say "thanks" for the use of the facilities would be in order and recommended an amount of \$300.00. After some discussion a further recommendation was made to establish an amount of \$300.00 for any year that we make use of the Fort for Field Day. This as a formal proposal was seconded and put to a vote. The vote resulted in a unanimous "yes". Thus, the FWRC will submit \$300.00 to the Old Fort for this year's Field Day, and will use this vote to authorize additional \$300.00 donations to the Fort should we make use of the facilities for Field Day in the future.

3. Charles noted that the logging computers use by the club for Field Day and other operating events were getting quite long in the tooth. They operate with the XP Operating System and cannot be



August 16: The annual tailgate Hamfest in the GSUMC parking lot.

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Carole Burke, WB9RUS

Webmaster

Jay Farlow, W9LW

Unless otherwise scheduled, all meetings are held at 7:00 PM at the Good Shepherd United Methodist Church, 4700 Vance Avenue, Fort Wayne, IN.

upgraded to Windows 10. Replacement parts (hard drives, etc.) are nearly impossible to obtain. During Field Day, two of our logging computers failed and repair of them appears impossible. Bob Streeter proposed that the club use the proceeds from the last auction (the Brunn's estate, \$900.00) as a fund to procure modern replacement machines should an opportunity to do so at an advantageous price present itself. So, the proposal to establish a \$900.00 fund to be used by the Board to procure new machines was put on the floor and seconded. It was then put to a vote and approved unanimously by the club members attending.

It was noted that Straight Key Century Club (SKCC) operating events were occurring monthly, sometime several times a month. Permission was requested to make use of the W9TE call sign during these events which was approved providing the SKCC operating events don't conflict with other club operating events where the W9TE call sign is to be used. The SKCC crew will coordinate with our club station trustee Carole Burke (WB9RUS).

Charles gave a summary of our Field Day efforts this year. It was a safe weekend; the only person to get hurt was Charles when he banged his head on a tower. We operated class 6A and all of the stations went together remarkably fast such that we were good-to-go by 1:00 pm, an hour before the official start of the festivities. Charles submitted an official claimed score of 5264 points, slightly larger than last year's submission. We had 689 CW contacts, 187 phone contacts and 111 digital contacts. We garnered a significant number of bonus parts too. These included making use of media for ham radio purposes, use of solar power (two stations), use of a public location (the Old Fort), use of a Public Information table to disseminate info on the hobby, transmission of a Field Day message, an on-site visit by public official plus representatives from Homeland Security and the Red Cross, use of a Security Officer and use of Social Media to spread the word about our hobby. (Brenda Plummer, KD9GDX and Fred Gengnagel, KC9EZF produced a great Facebook Live video where-in they visited all six of our operating positions and conducted a live interview with the folks operating the position

Jack Shutt, W9GT noted that station to station interference was a real problem during Field Day. Several people are looking into the issue including Andy Danielson, AC9EZ who is running some experiments with different equipment configurations to determine what seems to reduce interference. Steve Nardin, W9SAN agreed to form a group to work the problem and develop potential ideas that can be tried out during an upcoming event, perhaps the CQ WW DX competition.

Charles reminded everyone that our August meeting (16 August) will be the annual tailgate Hamfest in the GSUMC parking lot. It's free to anyone wishing to

sell or buy goodies. Setup starts at 6:00 pm with the tailgate itself starting at 6:30 pm and lasting until the mosquitoes drive us out. This will be everyone's chance to unearth unused ham gear and electronics from their basements and garages and perhaps sell it.

Linda Nardin, W9LAN noted that the next YL luncheon is scheduled for Saturday, 17 August at the Clyde Theatre Restaurant (The Club Room at the Clyde), 1805 Bluffton Rd. starting at noon.

The meeting concluded at 8:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Al Burke, WB9SSE
Secretary, Fort Wayne Radio Club

KF9YP's THOUGHTFUL GIFT

Thanks to the generosity of Larry Eckerley, KF9YP, the FWRC has acquired a very nice tent fly that will be used to great effect at various outdoor activities such as Field Day, special operating events, community support events, outdoor Hamfests that we participate in and so forth.

The tent fly measures 10' by 20' and was put to good use during the recent Field Day event that the FWRC participated in at the Old Fort in late June.

It provided respite from the sun for Field Day attendees participating in the dinner that was served Saturday evening.

Thanks again to Larry for this wonderful gift.

The FWRC BOD



L3HARRIS EMPLOYEES COMMEMORATE PHILO FARNSWORTH BIRTHDAY WITH HAM RADIO SPECIAL EVENT

By Joseph Lawrence, K9RFZ

Philo T. Farnsworth, the father of electronic television, worked in Fort Wayne Indiana from 1951 to 1967 for ITT (currently L3Harris Technologies Corporation). Current and former L3Harris employees **will operate a special event station from 1400 to 2200 UTC on Saturday August 17** to commemorate Farnsworth's birthday (August 19, 1906) and his many achievements. The special event call sign W9F (whiskey-nine-farnsworth) will operate on 20m and 40m SSB in the current L3Harris Technical and Administrative Center which houses the Philo T. Farnsworth museum. The museum contains many examples of Farnsworth's televisions, radios, and equipment from his research lab affectionately dubbed 'the cave'. Public visitors are welcome to explore the museum and witness the special event station in action during operating hours.

QSO's with W9F can be confirmed by sending a QSL card and SASE to: Joseph Lawrence, L3Harris Technologies, 1919 W. Cook Rd - MS 617, Fort Wayne, IN 46818



State of the Arts

Allen County Amateur Radio Technical Society

P.O. Box 10342, Fort Wayne, IN

ACARTS PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I hope that all of you are enjoying your summertime activities and are getting your summer projects completed. Hopefully, there was time for some ham radio activities.

The August board meeting will be a week early, on August 6th.

Saturday, August 10th is the date of the 2019 ACARTS Picnic. The picnic was a great success the last two years, so this year's picnic will be pretty much the same. The picnic will be start around 5:00 p.m. with the food served around 6:00 p.m. and will again be held at the Jefferson Township Park on Webster Road, east of New Haven. The club will provide the hamburgers and hotdogs, chips, and drinks. Salads, desserts, and other goodies will be a pot-luck carry-in. Charles, KC9MUT, our great chef at the previous picnics, has agreed to bring his grill and cook for us again. The park has a covered pavilion, with seating a picnic tables for around 50 people. You may consider bring lawn chairs, so that you don't have to spend the entire time on a hard picnic table seat.

The ACARTS picnic is a family affair, so plan on bring your spouse, kids, or grand-kids. Let me know if you have any ideas for activities to be held with the picnic. Members of ACARTS, the Fort Wayne Radio Club, and the Fort Wayne DX Association are invited, with a special invitation to the new hams in the area. The picnic provides an excellent opportunity to have casual conversations and get to know your fellow hams and their families.

August 10: ACARTS Picnic.

Unless otherwise scheduled, all General meetings are held at 7:00 PM at the Red Cross Center, 1212 E California Rd, Fort Wayne, IN. Board meeting are held at the Salvation Army Facility.



There is an article elsewhere in this newsletter with pictures and a map showing the location of the park.

We need to have a count as to how many members and their guests will be attending. Many of you have already signed up, but I have not yet heard from a

lot of members that have attended in the past. Please contact me by Monday, August 5th, so that we know how much food to purchase.

Mark the date of August 10th and plan to attend the picnic. I hope to see you there.

73,
Dave Lindquist, W9LKH
President

47th FORT WAYNE HAMFEST
Largest Hamfest in Indiana
2019 ARRL INDIANA SECTION CONVENTION

**ARRL Forum - Saturday 10:00 AM**
Kermit Carlson W9XA
ARRL Central Division Director
Carl Luetzeltschwab K9LA
ARRL Central Division Vice - Director
James Merry Jr. KC9RPX
ARRL Indiana Section Manager

ARRL Section Banquet - Saturday 5:00PM
Dan Henderson N1ND - Keynote Speaker
ARRL Regulatory Information Specialist
buffet and beer and appetizers and chicken breast.
Ticket \$25. Attendance limited to first 70.
Reservations Open October 1, 2019
www.fortwaynehamfest.com

NOV. 16 & 17 2019
SAT 9 AM to 4 PM
SUN 9 AM to 2 PM
Admission: \$6 Sat & Sun
\$3 Sun only
Children under 12 free (with adult)

- Ham Radio License Testing All Classes (\$14)
- 9 AM till 12 PM Saturday
- WAS & DXCC Card Checking and CQ Awards
- New & Used Ham Equipment Dealers
- Main & Hourly Prizes
- Equipment Check-out | Test Purchases on-site
- Talk-in 146.880-
- Tables:
 - \$25 Regular (8ft), \$50 Premium (8ft), \$33 Electricity

**Allen County War Memorial Coliseum**
4000 Parnell Ave
Fort Wayne, IN
73,000 sq. ft. all indoors
(Coliseum Parking \$6 per vehicle)

Get the latest information at
www.fortwaynehamfest.com
www.facebook.com/FTWAYNEHAMFEST/



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Secretary

Position Open

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ACARTS To Host AREA HAM PICNIC - AUGUST 10TH

By Joseph Lawrence, K9RFZ

The ACARTS Officers and Board continue to provide opportunities to build club participation by hosting the annual picnic again this year on Saturday August 10. We have reserved the pavilion at the Jefferson Township Park on Webster Road (see map) about 3.5 miles east of New Haven.



The event starts at 5 p.m. with the carry-in dinner between 6 – 7:30 p.m. The ACARTS will furnish hot dogs, hamburgers, buns, lemonade, iced tea, bottled water, plates, cups, and plastic utensils. FWRC President, Charles Ward, KC9MUT has agreed to serve as the grill master again this year. Members from the ACARTS, FWRC, and DX Association are requested to bring side dishes and desserts to share. This activity will only be successful if we can count

The park has several benefits. It's large and spacious with several covered picnic tables and a playground area for children (or grandchildren) to play while the adults are busy with ham radio. The pavilion has a kitchen with refrigerators and a stove for carry-in food handling. Indoor restrooms are available.

As a bonus, the Fort Wayne Astronomical Society (FWAS) has invited us to observe with them at their public observatory. If the weather is clear, hams are welcome to visit the observatory, view the moon, Jupiter, Saturn, and stellar clusters. The Perseid meteor shower is nearly at peak that evening, so we may see some fireballs.



on member participation and commitment. We need people who are willing to show up and pitch in. We need people willing to help clean up after the meal. In short, we need people who are willing to demonstrate that amateur radio is a thriving hobby with members who care about its longevity. Contact ACARTS President Dave Lindquist (w9lkh@comcast.net) before August 5 and let him know that you plan to attend the picnic, so we can plan how much food to buy.



AUBURN HOLDS FIRST ANNUAL HAMFEST

The Northeastern Indiana ARA in Auburn was pleased to welcome Amateurs from Indiana, Ohio and Michigan to their first annual hamfest. A special thanks goes to the Fort Wayne hams for their enthusiastic support. Trunk sales participants and customers enjoyed some fine weather with skies mostly overcast and temperatures in the eighties. Indoor vendors greeted their prospects in air conditioned comfort. Both inside and outdoor vendors reported brisk sales as Hams found good deals on some great amateur gear. Congratulations to the three grand prize winners. Plans are under way for next year's Auburn Hamfest!

Jack W9OWO





Carl Luetzelschwab, K9LA

Last month I discussed the length of the current solar minimum. It looks like it is going to be a long one as it is tracking the previous long solar minimum between Cycles 23 and 24. Just remember that 20m (and to a lesser degree 17m) will still give us worldwide opportunities during the day and early evening. The lower bands should be good during the nighttime. And don't forget Sporadic E during the summer months (and in December to a lesser degree).

In that column I also stated that historical data suggests that the longer we're at

solar minimum, the smaller the next cycle will be. This is shown in Figure 1, which is a scatter diagram of the length of a solar minimum period versus the magnitude of the next solar cycle. The trend line shows a strong relationship between a solar cycle being small after a long minimum. This is reason #1 for thinking Cycle 25 might be a small one.

Figure 2 plots the magnitude of all twenty-four solar cycles. We've seen three periods of big solar cycles and two periods of small solar cycles. Cycle 24 (maybe even Cycle 23) appears to be the start of a third period of small solar cycles. This is reason #2 for thinking Cycle 25 might be a small one.

For reason #3 for thinking Cycle 25 might be a small one, we have to go back to 2013 to a paper by J. Zhao, R.S. Bogart, A.G. Kosovichev, T.L. Duvall Jr. and T. Hartlep (Detection of Equatorward Meridional Flow and Evidence of Double-Cell Meridional Circulation inside the Sun, Astrophysics Journal Letters, 774, L29, 2013). The authors used helio-seismological observations to suggest that the dynamo inside the Sun (what generates the Sun's magnetic field) was not just a single cell in each hemisphere, but two cells. One cell is in the outer layer of the Sun and the other is in the inner layer of the Sun. See Figure 3.

This conclusion of a double-celled dynamo generated great interest in the solar community. It shouldn't be a surprise that our solar cycle predictions using a physical model with just a one-cell dynamo were all over the map. For example, Cycle 24 had three predictions using a dynamo model – 40, 140 and 170. Neither was close to what really happened – a maximum smoothed

sunspot number of 80 for Cycle 24. I should mention that there were more than 50 predictions using methods other than the dynamo model that ranged from 40 to 185.

In 2014, Shepherd, Zharkov and Zharkova published a paper based on the 2013 Zhao, et al, paper. Their modeling with a two-cell solar dynamo resulted in a prediction for Cycle 25 being 80% of Cycle 24 and for Cycle 26 being 40% of Cycle 24. In a follow-up 2019 paper by Zharkova, et al, the authors believe we will have a grand solar minimum from 2020-2055, which includes Cycles 25, 26 and 27.

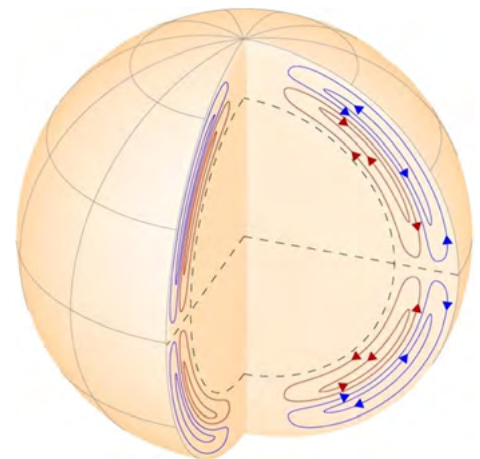


Figure 3 – The Two-Cell Dynamo Model

Is the two-cell dynamo model accurate in predicting solar cycles? We'll have to wait and see. If it is successful, solar scientists will have taken a major step in understanding our Sun. If it is not accurate, we'll have to refine the model. Worst case, we may have to go back to the drawing board.

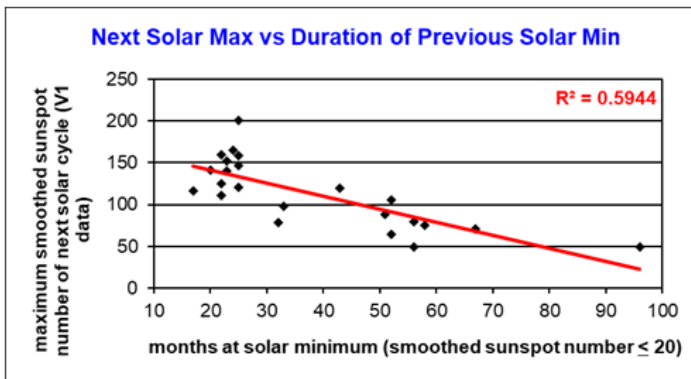


Figure 1 – Next Cycle vs Previous Solar Minimum

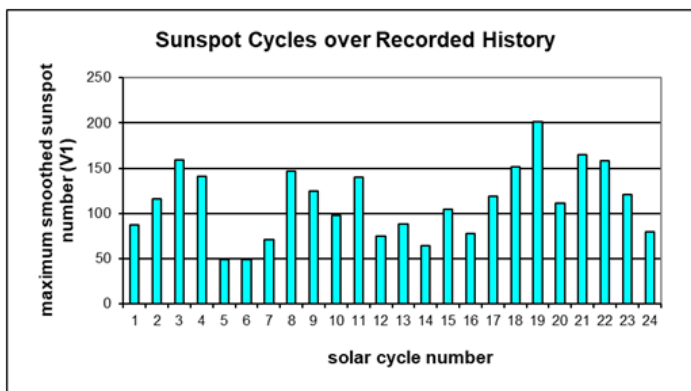


Figure 2 – Magnitude of All 24 Cycles

SKCC ACTIVITY

The Fort Wayne area SKCCers continue to lead the pack of activity in SKCC operating events! In the past two months we have seen Josh W9HT reach the coveted Senator level, Ed WA9BBN get his 40-meter Senator endorsement, Jim AC9EZ recently achieving the Tribune level and Al K9FW going from new SKCC member to Senator in 60 days!

Al joined Straight Key Century Club on May 14th and with a little persuasion, he participated in the May SKS a week later. His 41 contacts that evening were the beginning of a 2,200 QSO march to Senator. By May 25th Al was a Centurion, 5 days later a Tribune, 5 weeks later a Tx8 (that's 400 contacts with unique Centurions, Tribunes and Senators) then finally Senator (200 more unique contacts) on July 15! Al was on a lot; in fact, whenever I turned the radio on, he was easy to be found! Al's station includes a Kenwood TS-590S, a solid-state amplifier from SPE, a Vibroplex bug, and his 2-element quad on his 40-foot tower. 2,200 QSO's! WOW! **de N8KR**



OUR FUTURE? . . . AN OLD-FASHIONED SOLUTION!

I often wonder what amateur radio will look like 50 years from now. The concern for perpetuating the hobby is one shared by many, including our league officials. While "waving" the digital modes as the future of our hobby and as a way to get people involved, I tend to side with Rick Roderick, K5UR, our league president, with his views expressed at the convention banquet last November at the Fort Wayne Coliseum. His views? My story . . .

In 2018, Jim KD9GDY, a newbie ham and working on code proficiency, joined SKCC. The following January during our annual SKCC K3Y event Jim came over to the shack during our multi-multi special event weekend and started his quest in making contacts. The picture shows Jim with his elmer, Ed WA9BBN, working together in listening, copying and sending. That extra help and encouragement from Ed continued as Ed went to Jim's shack as KD9GDY operated as K3Y/9. It wasn't long and Jim was "flying solo!"

So, now, fast forward to July, 2019 to a weekend operating event with SKCC. Jim decides to invite a new FWRC member and SKCC member, Fred – KB5DFS, to his shack and help him get on the air and make contacts. The positions have now changed, and the student now becomes the "elmer" and yet, another ham is encouraged and helped to become active on the HF bands. During their time together, Fred made 8 SKCC contacts. One of those happened to be with me and Fred had a nice, easy-to-copy fist! In that short QSO, Fred told me that he was at Jim's. In complimenting Jim on his efforts to help Fred, he simply said that he was "paying it forward!"

The whole idea of hams helping hams was one of K5UR's major talking point last fall. Each of us, helping another ham, using our varied talents and abilities, will help perpetuate our hobby. It's not just the old-time hams. Jim KD9GDY has been a ham since 2016! And I would be remiss if I failed to mention Rose KA9GKE who's on-the-air QSO's with Larry KB9OS has helped further his CW operating! Helping with CW? How



Mr. Elmer – Jim KD9GDY

about helping with station setup, antennas, digital operating, computer logging, LOTW. As many in our hobby get older, more assistance is needed to keep them active in the hobby. Our future? How about simply helping and encouraging each other – newbies and oldies – to keep our bands full of activity! I'd like to think it would be contagious! **de Ken – N8KR**



Fred KB5DFS

they started the hunt following our team's van north up Coliseum from Corbin Park.

We eventually wound up heading north on Maplecrest Rd. and then west on Mayhew and crossed over the St. Joe river. At that point I noticed that the Nardin's were no longer following us. They had guessed that the fox was at the boat landing by the old bridge and headed that way. Hence, they localized the fox first. (I must figure out a way to spike their coffee). We wound up heading all the way to Dupont Rd. before we figured out that we had overshot the fox. So, we doubled back, picked up the microfox signal and wound up at the boat landing about ten minutes later.

As soon as I parked the van, I saw Jim and Bill scrambling up to the pile of river ballast where the microfox was hidden. Steve was furiously tearing away at the rocks attempting to uncover that microfox but wasn't having any success. Ironically, Bill walked up to the pile and located it just like that. So as it turned out Bill found it first followed by the Nardin team, followed by the Pliett/Burke team.

Following the hunt everyone proceeded to Bagger Dave's Burger and Beer Joint at Dupont and I-69 for a well-deserved repast. I must admit, the food over there is quite good.

While there comparing notes, we discovered that Bill Hopkins would not be able to participate in the scheduled (4th

of August) hunt, and he was slated to be the August fox since he was first to find the microfox in today's event. Furthermore, it turned out that the Nardin's would also not be able to participate on that date. **As a result, we decided that we should postpone the August hunt one week and reschedule it to the 11th of August. Please note that on your calendars.**

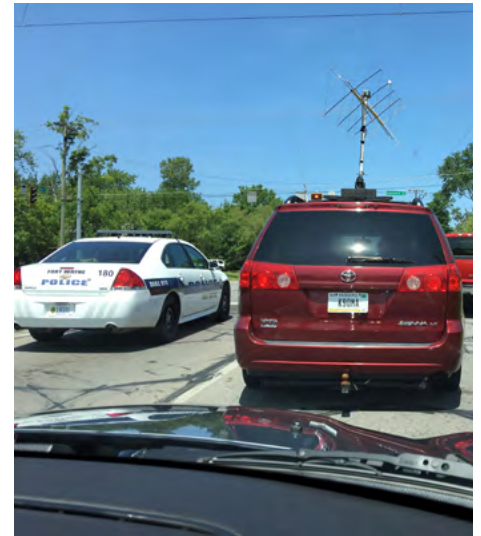
Scores for this hunt and year-to-date totals are as follows:

Call	Score This Month	Year to Date
WB9SSE	1	10.5
WB9RUS	1	6.5
K9OMA	1	13.5
KA9YYI	1	9.5
KC9MUT	0	18.34
KC9EZP	0	10.67
AB9IZ	0	11.34
W9SAN	2	16.67
W9LAN	2	16.67
Alex	0	10
K9LI	4	13
Julie Glick	0	8
K9WEH	4	6
KD9ITZ	0	2

As you may notice, several of the scores are fairly close, so we have a real race going on here through the end of the season in November. So why don't you get involved. Join us in the next hunt on

August 11th. We would love to have you participate. (And don't forget, the after-hunt food is great.)

Al Burke, WB9SSE



2019 Foxhunt Schedule

The following is the planned Foxhunt schedule for 2019. All foxhunts start at 1:30 PM on Sunday at the River Greenway Trailhead at Cobin Memorial Park near Lakeside Golf Course.

August 11
September 15
October 6
November 3



GUSTS OFTEN SEEM STRONGER THAN THEY ARE

By Jay Farlow, W9LW, Allen Co. SKYWARN Net Manager

A garden-variety thunderstorm blew through Allen County at midday on July 18. It was strong enough to prompt the northern Indiana office of the National Weather Service (IWX) to issue a [Special Weather Statement](#) but not a Severe Thunderstorm Warning. Gusts during the storm resulted in someone reporting to IWX that winds were “well above severe limits.” IWX meteorologists doubted that, with good reason.

At about the same time, my rooftop anemometer on the northeast side of Fort Wayne measured a peak gust of 22 mph — well below the 58-mph minimum severe thunderstorm criteria. I was surprised, because that gust really sounded more impressive from inside our house. When I looked around our yard, however, I didn’t even see any small twigs on the ground.

The “well above severe limits” wind estimate prompted IWX to [share on Twitter](#) a post with an illustration of the [Beaufort Wind Chart](#), which helps storm spotters estimate wind speeds based on what they see the wind do. That chart indicates that winds in the range of 55 to 63 mph (around the lower end of severe storm criteria) usually uproot trees and cause “considerable structural damage.” I doubt that the person who reported winds “well above severe limits” observed either of those phenomena.

Research published in the Journal of Applied Meteorology and Climatology and reported on by the [online earth and space news site Eos](#), indicates that people “overestimated the speeds of wind gusts—on average, by about one third of the gusts’ actual speeds.” Researchers also found flaws in the Beaufort scale, but as IWX tweeted, “informed estimates are much better than a guess.”

We storm spotters don’t always have access to anemometer data, but there’s something we can do that will be much more valuable to the National Weather Service than even informed estimates of wind speeds. What is it? The answer is fairly simple and the clue comes from the Beaufort chart.

Rather than reporting an estimated wind speed, **we can report what we see the wind do.**

If we see the wind uproot a tree, we can report that a tree was uprooted, its approximate size and whether it appeared to be healthy or rotted.

If we see the wind damage a structure, we can report the visible damage (e.g. shingles blown off a roof).

We don’t even need to look up wind speeds on the Beaufort chart, because National Weather Service meteorologists have their own copies. A clear description of what the wind did enables National Weather Service meteorologists to determine — with the help of radar velocity data — what the wind speed probably was. More importantly, a clear description of wind damage helps meteorologists determine whether to issue or extend a Severe Thunderstorm Warning.

Beaufort Wind Chart – Estimating Winds Speeds

Beaufort Number	MPH		Terminology	Description
	Range	Average		
0	0	0	Calm	Calm. Smoke rises vertically.
1	1-3	2	Light air	Wind motion visible in smoke.
2	4-7	6	Light breeze	Wind felt on exposed skin. Leaves rustle.
3	8-12	11	Gentle breeze	Leaves and smaller twigs in constant motion.
4	13-18	15	Moderate breeze	Dust and loose paper is raised. Small branches begin to move.
5	19-24	22	Fresh breeze	Smaller trees sway.
6	25-31	27	Strong breeze	Large branches in motion. Whistling heard in overhead wires. Umbrella use becomes difficult.
7	32-38	35	Near gale	Whole trees in motion. Some difficulty when walking into the wind.
8	39-46	42	Gale	Twigs broken from trees. Cars veer on road.
9	47-54	50	Severe gale	Light structure damage.
10	55-63	60	Storm	Trees uprooted. Considerable structural damage.
11	64-73	70	Violent storm	Widespread structural damage.
12	74-95	90	Hurricane	Considerable and widespread damage to structures.



Webpage: <http://www.weather.gov/iwx>

Twitter: [@nwsiwx](#)

Facebook: [NWSNorthernIndiana](#)



Van Wert Hamfest 2019
Ham's in picture are from Fort Wayne Area

Silent Key

James “Jim” Hinchee K4RMU SK

Jim Elwood Hinchee, passed away on Wednesday, July 3, 2019. An Amateur Radio Operator since 1957, he was a member of FWRC and ACARTS. His last advice (Jim had lots of advice) was: “Do what’s right and good. Be kind to others and help them when you can.”

[Click here for his complete obituary.](#)

CONTEST CALENDAR

Here are a few of the contests that will be held in the next few weeks. Please refer to the contest web sites for full rules, scoring information, operating periods or time limits, and log submission information.

Some of the places on-line with information on contests include:

ARRL Contest Corral Web page www.arrl.org/contests

ARRL's National Contest Journal www.arrl.org/ncj

ARRL Contest Update www.arrl.org/contest-update-issues

Contesting On-Line www.contesting.com

WA7BNM Contest Calendar www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/

DXNews <http://dxnews.com>

DX Zone Contesting www.dxzone.com/catalog/Contesting/

ARRL Contest Calendar www.arrl.org/contest-calendar

NORTH AMERICAN QSO PARTY, CW			ARRL 222 MHz & Up DISTANCE CONTEST			MARYLAND-DC QSO PARTY		
AUGUST 3, 1800Z		AUGUST 4, 0559Z	AUGUST 3, 1800Z		AUGUST 4, 1800Z	AUGUST 10, 1400Z		AUGUST 11, 0400Z
1.8-28	-	CW	-	222+	PHONE, CW, DIGITAL	1.8-28	50-432	PHONE, CW, DIGITAL
NAME, SPC (IF NORTH AMERICA)			6-CHAR GRID SQUARE			ENTRY CLASS, COUNTY OR SPC		
www.ncjweb.com			www.arrl.org/222-mhz-and-up-distance-contest			www.w3vpr.org/mdcqsoparty		
NORTH AMERICAN QSO PARTY, SSB			ARRL ROOKIE ROUNDUP, RTTY			HAWAII QSO PARTY		
AUGUST 17, 1800Z		AUGUST 18, 0559Z	AUGUST 18, 1800Z		AUGUST 18, 2359Z	AUGUST 24, 0400Z		AUGUST 26, 0400Z
1.8-28	-	PHONE	3.5-28	50	DIGITAL	1.8-28	-	PHONE, CW, DIGITAL
NAME, SPC (IF NORTH AMERICA)			NAME, 2-DIGIT YEAR LICENSED, SPC			RS(T), HI QTH OR SPC		
http://www.ncjweb.com/			www.arrl.org/rookie-roundup			www.hawaiiqsoparty.org		
ALARA CONTEST			KANSAS QSO PARTY			OHIO QSO PARTY		
AUGUST 24, 0600Z		AUGUST 25, 0559Z	AUGUST 24, 1400Z		AUGUST 25, 2000Z	AUGUST 24, 1600Z		AUGUST 25, 0400Z
3.5-28	-	PHONE, CW	3.5-28	50	PHONE, CW, DIGITAL	3.5-28	-	PHONE, CW
RS(T), NAME, YL/OM/CLUB			RS(T), COUNTY OR SPC			RS(T), COUNTY OR SPC		
www.alara.org.au/contests			http://ksqsoparty.org/			www.ohqp.org		

ACARTS (W9INX) REPEATERS			FWRC (W9TE) REPEATERS			OTHER AREA REPEATERS			
Freq/Offset	Input Tone		Freq/Offset	Input Tone		Call	Freq/ Offset	Input Tone	
146.880 (-)	No tone	General use / Skywarn priority	146.760 (-)	No tone	General use (Note 1)	W9FEZ	145.330 (-)	No tone	Fort Wayne
147.255 (+)	No tone	General use	146.910 (-)	No tone	General use (Notes 1 and 4)	W9FEZ	224.780 (-)	No tone	Fort Wayne (Note 1)
443.800 (+)	No tone	General use	146.940 (-)	141.3 Hz required	General use (Notes 1 and 3)	W9FEZ	444.800 (+)	No tone	Fort Wayne (Note 1)
144.390 (s)	Digital	APRS - wide	444.875 (+)	141.3 Hz required	General use (Note 1)	K9MMQ	443.100 (+)	N/A	Fort Wayne, DMR
145.530 (s)	Digital	W9INX-1 Digipeater and Node	442.99375	D-STAR	General use (Note 2)	K9MMQ	443.275 (+)	141.3 Hz required	Fort Wayne
Notes: General Note: Standard 0.6 MHz (2-meter), 1.6 MHz (1.25-meter) and 5.0 MHz (70-cm) frequency offsets are used for all repeaters unless otherwise indicated.			Notes: 1. 141.3 Hz output tone present 2. Offset + 5.0 MHz, W9TE ___ B, W9TE ___ G 3. Yaesu System Fusion repeater, supports both FM (analog) and C4FM (digital) voice 4. EchoLink connection repeater Node number 519521			N9MTF	442.6375 (+)	N/A	Fort Wayne, DMR
						W9AVW	444.250 (+)	141.3 Hz required	Fort Wayne
						W9OU	147.015 (+)	No tone	Auburn
						WC9AR	145.270 (-)	141.3 Hz required	Columbia City
						WC9AR	444.550 (+)	No tone	Columbia City
						K9OMA	147.375 (+)	No tone	Columbia City
						K9HC	146.685 (-)	141.3 Hz required	Huntington
						N9BCP	147.150 (+)	97.4 Hz required	Ligonier
						Notes:			

Articles, photographs, and classified ads for publication in the Allen County HamNews should be emailed to the newsletter editor at [AB9ZD\(at\)ARRL.NET](mailto:AB9ZD(at)ARRL.NET) several days before the first of the month. If you notice information that needs changed, please contact the newsletter editor by email.

The Allen County HamNews is prepared using Adobe's InDesign software along with PhotoShop and Acrobat on an i7 based PC running Windows 10.

Membership Application for ☐ ACARTS OR ☐ FWRC

Name: _____ Call sign: _____ License class: _____
 Street address: _____ City: _____
 State: _____ ZIP: _____ - _____ Phone #: (____) _____ - _____ Unlisted? ☐ Yes
 Email address: _____ ARRL Member? ☐ Yes

(ARRL membership helps your club maintain affiliation.)

May we list your name, call & email address in our membership roster and on our club web site? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Both clubs now offer this newsletter as a downloadable (Adobe Acrobat) PDF file, in lieu of a paper copy sent through the mail. For FWRC a mailed paper newsletter is a \$25.00/yr. premium.

How would you like your newsletter delivered? ☐ by snail mail ☐ download from web site.

A.C.A.R.T.S. Dues

Regular membership ☐ \$12.00 / year
 Additional family members¹ ☐ \$6.00 / year
 Student membership² ☐ \$6.00 / year
 Associate membership³ ☐ \$6.00 / year
 (New Regular memberships are \$1/month)

Fort Wayne Radio Club Dues

Regular membership ☐ \$20.00 / year
 Family membership¹ ☐ \$30.00 / year
 Student membership² ☐ \$5.00 / year
 Associate membership³ ☐ \$20.00 / year
 Mailed newsletter premium ☐ \$25.00 / year
 (Memberships for Jul - Dec are 1/2 the stated amounts.)

1. Please list all names and calls on an attached sheet.

2. K-12 or full time student

3. Unlicensed member

Please attach a check (number _____) for the appropriate amount and bring to a club meeting or mail to:

ACARTS

PO Box 10342

Fort Wayne, IN 46851-0342

Fort Wayne Radio Club.

PO Box 15127

Fort Wayne, IN 46885-5127

For dual membership, send a check to each club for your respective membership. Payment by check is strongly encouraged!



If you have something you would like to have listed in the classified section then please send an email to the newsletter editor at **AB9ZD(at)ARRL.NET**.

ANGOLA HAMFEST

Land of Lakes Amateur Radio Club

Saturday August 10, 2019

8:00 AM – 11:00 AM

Admission \$6.00

Gateway Church, 255N Gerald Lett Ave, Angola, IN 46703

Email: landoflakesarc@gmail.com

Repeater Talk-in: 147.180 (+) PL 131.8

AREA NETS

Daily			Tuesday		
8:00 AM	3.535	Daily (QIN) Indiana Section CW net	8:00 PM	50.580 USB	FWRC 6-Meter SSB Net
8:30 AM	3.940	Daily Indiana Traffic Net	9:00 PM	146.940-	Allen Co. ARES Training Net
6:00 PM	3.940	Daily Indiana Traffic Net	Wednesday		
6:30 PM	146.880-	IMO (alternate is 146.760)	7:00 PM	146.760-	FWRCYL Net
7:00 PM	147.015+	Tri State Two Meter Net	7:30 PM	147.150+	21 Repeater Group
8:00 PM	3.535	Daily (QIN) Indiana Section CW net	8:00 PM	145.270-	Whitley Co. ARES (141.3 PL)
Week Days			8:00 PM	50.580 FM	FWRC 6-Meter FM Net
8:30 AM	3.820	Little Red Barn Net	9:00 PM	146.940-	Help and Swap Net
Sunday			Thursday		
8:00 PM	444.550+	Whitley Co. ARC Sunday Night Net	8:00 PM	D-STAR	Indiana D-STAR net (Note 3)
8:30 PM	1.965 & 146.910-	"No-Name" Net also on EchoLink Node number 519521	8:00 PM	50.580 AM	6-Meter AM Net
9:00 PM	145.530	Northeast Indiana Packet Net (Note 2)	8:30 PM	145.510 (s)	Allen County ARES Digital Operations Team Training Net (Note 4)
Monday			Saturday		
8:00 PM	224.780-	Fort Wayne 224 Net	8:00 PM	146.685-	Huntington ARES

1. All times local time. **Any changes or corrections should be submitted to the newsletter editor at AB9ZD (at) ARRL.NET.**
2. On 145.530 @ 1200 baud. Use unconnected converse mode to communicate for a roundtable net setting. Use your "UNPROTO" command or equivalent to set Digi path(s) through the strongest station(s) needed between you and your destination. Only use those that are necessary! Have all your "Monitor" settings on so you can see everyone.
3. Reflector REF024B.
4. Net starts using BPSK-31 and switches to BPSK-250 after roll call to pass traffic etc. NBEMS suite of software (FLDIGI, FLMSG, and FLAMP) is preferred.
5. Indiana HF Traffic Nets Web Site: <http://www.inarrl.org/index.php/public-service/indiana-nts>

To:

Activities Calendar



Date	Time	Event	Place
08/06/2019	7:00 PM	FWRC Board Meeting	GSUMC
08/06/2019	7:00 PM	ACARTS Board Meeting	Salvation Army Facility
08/10/2019	5:00 PM	ACARTS Picnic	Jefferson Township Park
08/11/2019	1:30 PM	Foxhunt - River Greenway Trailhead/Cobin Memorial Park near Lakeside Golf Course	
08/16/2019	6:00 PM	FWRC Tailgate Hamfest	GSUMC Parking Lot
09/10/2019	7:00 PM	FWRC Board Meeting	GSUMC
09/10/2019	7:00 PM	ACARTS Board Meeting	Salvation Army Facility
09/15/2019	1:30 PM	Foxhunt - River Greenway Trailhead/Cobin Memorial Park near Lakeside Golf Course	
09/17/2019	7:00 PM	ACARTS General Meeting	Red Cross Center
09/20/2019	7:00 PM	FWRC General Meeting	GSUMC
11/16/2019	9:00 AM	Fort Wayne Hamfest	Allen County War Memorial Coliseum
11/17/2019	9:00 AM	Fort Wayne Hamfest	Allen County War Memorial Coliseum